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TINTWISTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Report for the year ending December 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1954.

Population.

The 1951 Census figure has been revealed as 1362 persons. For the purpose of estimating birth and death rates, the Registrar General has for the 1954 mid-year figure estimated the number of persons as 1450 which is a decrease of 4 over a similar estimate for 1953.

Homes of the People.

The number of occupied houses on the 31st December 1954 was 535 giving an average of 2.7 persons per house.

Births.

The number of live births registered was 20 of which 8 were males and 12 females. Of these, 7 took place at home, 7 in Hospitals and 6 in Maternity Homes. All births were legitimate, and 1 Still Birth was reported.

The Crude Birth Rate was 13.8 per 1000 compared with 17.9 for 1953. The Birth Rate adjusted for comparative purposes with other districts was 14.5 per 1000 compared with a figure of 15.2 for the country as a whole.

Deaths.

The number of deaths registered was 20 of which 14 were males and 6 were females.

The Crude Death Rate was 13.8 per 1000 compared with 17.9 for 1953. The Death Rate adjusted for comparative purposes with other districts was 12.2 per 1000 compared with a figure of 11.3 for the country as a whole.

The causes of death were certified as under :-

Coronary Heart Disease	4	Cancer	1
Other " "	6	Pneumonia	2
Disease of Circulation	4	Other Diseases	3

Amongst infants under 12 months of age one death occurred due to Prematurity and this is included in the above total.

Of all deaths due to natural causes, 80% of the total were aged 70 years or over and 50% were over 75 years of age.

Infectious Diseases.

Whooping Cough	6
Chicken Pox	5
Tuberculosis	1
Puerperal Tyrexia	1

Tuberculosis.

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the register at the 31st December was 3, two of which have the disease in the lungs.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Care of Mothers and Babies.

The Clinic held in Christ Church School, Tintwistle, was held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. A doctor, a nurse, and members of the Ladies' Voluntary Committee attended each session.

In addition to advice regarding child welfare, facilities for immunisation are available at each session.

Attendances were as under :-

<u>New Cases.</u>	<u>Total Attendances.</u>	<u>Average Attendance.</u>	<u>Seen by Doctor.</u>
29 (25)	597 (675)	25 (28)	126 (159)

Figures in brackets () indicate the corresponding numbers in the previous year.

Provision is made for cases resident in the extreme limits of the area to be provided with free motor transport to attend the clinic once per month.

The Ladies' Voluntary Welfare Committee provided valuable assistance by the sale of infant foods, the provision of teas to the mothers, and clerical duties in connection with the clinic. One member of this Committee attends the monthly meetings of the Hyde Divisional Health Committee, thereby providing a very necessary link between this voluntary body and the statutory Divisional Health Committee.

Nursing Services.

The part-time services of a Health Visitor, whose duties also include the area covered by the Longdendale U.D.C. are available and include the visiting in the homes of all children under the age of five years, attendance at the Clinic sessions and the visiting of school children in need of medical supervision.

All cases of Tuberculosis are visited normally every three months by this Nurse.

A District Midwife, resident in Hollingworth, has included in her district the area of the Tintwistle R.D.C. for confinements taking place in the home. She attended 7 home confinements during the year.

Cases of general sickness in the homes of the residents can, upon the request of the family doctors, receive nursing attention from a District Nurse resident in Hollingworth.

Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulance transport for the sick during 1954 was the responsibility of the Hyde Health Division of the Cheshire County Council.

The number of patients carried during 1954 was 572.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Mr. H. Dane, part-time Sanitary Inspector to your Council, has supplied me with the following particulars.

Water Supply.

The source of supply is provided by the Manchester Corporation from the Crowdon and Woodhead catchment areas. The water supply is adequate and of good quality.

Closet Accommodation.

The majority of premises are fitted with the water carriage system of drainage. There are only 4 premises where a pail type of closet is in existence, three of which are of "Elsan" type.

Refuse.

Ashbins are the usual method for the collection of household waste, there being approximately 546 bins in use, which are emptied weekly at Tintwistle and fortnightly at Crowden and Woodhead.

No ashpits or privy middens exist within the area.

Sanitary Inspections.

The number of inspections made in accordance with the Sanitary Officers Regulations, 1935, was (approximately) 700

Statutory Notices served. 7

Informal Notices served. 33

Dairies and Milk Supply.

The number of farms at which milk is produced and sold either retail or wholesale is 4. Bottled milk is supplied at 2 premises. All are inspected periodically, milk sampling for cleanliness and quality is under the control of the County Council. In addition, two farms in the Crowden and Woodhead area produce milk only for the use of the farmer and his family.

Rodent Control.

Under the Prevention of Damage by Posts Act, 1949, regular surveys have been carried out - sewers, outfall works and the refuse tips being treated with poisons at least six times per year. Complaints regarding rat and mice infestations are promptly dealt with. The poisons used are Zinc Phosphide, Arsenous Oxide, Red Squill and Warfarin.

I am appreciative of the assistance rendered to me by members of the Council and for information supplied by the other officials.

I remain,

Yours obediently,

F.W.C. BROWN.

Medical Officer of Health.

JUNE, 1955.

FWCB/AB.

